

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20523

SEP 24 1973

SEP 25 1973

Honorable James Abourezk  
United States Senator  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Abourezk:

Thank you for your letter of September 12, 1973, addressed to Mr. Lauren J. Goin, Director of the Office of Public Safety (OPS), Agency for International Development (AID) concerning the Technical Investigation Course and other police training conducted and sponsored by the Office of Public Safety. The following information is provided in response to the questions you asked.

Question No. 1. Please supply me with all available information on the Technical Investigations Course in Texas. Hopefully this would include the course syllabus; the list of countries whose students attend; to what extent the CIA and the Army are involved; and finally, the cost of operating the facility.

Answer No. 1. The Technical Investigation Course (TIC) has been conducted in two phases of four weeks each. The first phase, which is held at the International Police Academy (IPA) in Washington, D. C., consists of lectures and seminars. The second phase of four weeks, based on practical exercises, is conducted in the Border Patrol Academy at Los Fresnos, Texas. Enclosure No. 1 contains the syllabus of the course. Enclosure No. 2 lists the countries and number of participants trained. A total of seven courses have been conducted. In response to requests from U. S. Embassies for this kind of training, the first course was conducted in 1969. In 1967 and 1968, recurring criminal terrorist activities

around the world, many directed at U. S. Embassies or Chanceries and their personnel, prompted several Ambassadors to request the Office of Public Safety to develop a means for training overseas police to meet these threats to our own State Department personnel and facilities. The course addresses itself to the remedial actions that are necessary for police personnel assigned to investigate incidents of criminal violence.

The last course was concluded in May 1973. There is continual escalation in the number and types of terrorist crimes against diplomats, embassies and chanceries, and against banks, government facilities and industrial installations. New terrorist methods are being seen. Accordingly, the syllabus for this course is being modified and updated to be responsive to contemporary needs.

Prior to establishing the first course in 1969, and not having needed skills within its own staff, OPS attempted without success to obtain instructors from the Department of Defense with expertise in demonstrating the construction, use and counter measures against homemade bombs and explosive devices used by criminal terrorists. Subsequently, the Central Intelligence Agency agreed to provide guest lecturers for this portion of the training program.

The total cost per student for the Technical Investigation Course is \$1,750. From this amount, the Border Patrol Academy is paid \$428 per student for board and room. The balance is for per diem in Washington, D. C. and necessary training materials.

Question No. 2. What is the relationship between the International Police Academy and the police facilities at Fort Gordon, Georgia. Please supply the above categories of information for this facility as well.

Answer No. 2. The Office of Public Safety sponsors training in "Firearms Identification" which is provided at Fort Gordon in the Criminal Investigation Laboratory.

The instruction prepares the trainee to scientifically examine firearms and ammunition to determine whether a bullet was fired from a specific weapon, and to prepare the student to testify as an expert witness in court regarding his conclusions. The Fort Gordon Laboratory charges \$929 for each participant trained at its facility. This is the only training course at Fort Gordon that is sponsored by the Office of Public Safety. Enclosure No. 3 lists the countries and the number of participants trained in Firearms Identification.

Question No. 3. Are the students at IPA ever taught how to manufacture explosives or "booby-traps"? What instruction, if any, is included in any of your courses on the forms of explosives?

Answer No. 3. The Technical Investigation Course is the only course offered by the Office of Public Safety where attention is directed to the investigation of criminal manufacture and use of explosive devices. A police bomb investigator must be thoroughly familiar with the components and effects of explosive devices used by terrorists. The course is not designed to, nor does it prepare the student to be a bomb or explosive disposal technician, but rather to enhance his investigative skills. The thrust of the instruction at the Border Patrol Academy introduces trainees to commercially available materials and home laboratory techniques likely to be used by criminal terrorists in the manufacture of explosive and incendiaries so that the trainee will be able to identify them and take preventive action to protect lives and property upon his return to his country. Different types of explosive devices and "booby-traps" and their construction and use by terrorists are demonstrated. This entails practical experience with both manufactured and improvised devices.

The demonstration and practical exercises provide the trainee with the ability to detect various explosive and incendiary devices to allow steps to be taken to ensure the safety of those persons who may be a target of criminal violence or terrorist activity. Investigative field exercises are conducted to make the trainee aware

of the need for thoroughness and caution; and to provide him with the knowledge necessary to conduct a successful investigation utilizing recovery and reconstruction of evidence at the crime scene caused by an explosive or incendiary device.

Question No. 4. Does the CIA assign any of its personnel to attend, participate, or instruct any facet of police training or assist in giving police support in this country or anywhere else?

Answer No. 4. We suggest that this question be raised directly with the Central Intelligence Agency. A copy of your letter and this response have been forwarded to the Central Intelligence Agency.

I hope this information is sufficient in responding to your questions. If we can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

  
Matthew J. Harvey

Assistant Administrator for  
Legislative Affairs

Enclosures: a/s

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*24 Jan*

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